Catalogue of American Amphibians and Reptiles.

McCranie, J.R. 2008. *Bolitoglossa oresbia*.

Bolitoglossa oresbia McCranie, Espinal, and Wilson

Bolitoglossa oresbia McCranie, Espinal, and Wilson 2005:108. Type-locality, "Cerro El Zarciadero, 14°43.662'N, 87°53.925'W), 1880 m elevation, Departamento de Comayagua, Honduras." Holotype, National Museum of Natural History (USNM) 560001, an adult female, collected by M.R. Espinal, 3 July 2003 (examined by author).

Bolitoglossa (Magnadigita) oresbia: Raffaèlli 2007: 271.

• **CONTENT**. No subspecies are recognized.

• **DEFINITION**. *Bolitoglossa oresbia* is a moderately large salamander (SVL 47.0 mm in single adult male, 50.8–65.0 mm, mean = 57.1±7.2 mm in 3 adult females) with a broad and long head (head width/SVL 0.149 in male, 0.146–0.160 in females; head length/SVL 262 in male, 0.236–0.243 in females). The snout is truncate in dorsal aspect and broadly rounded to rounded in lateral profile. The labial protuberances are well developed in the adult male and weakly developed in adult females. The adult male has a distinct, oval-shaped mental gland cluster. The eyes are slightly protuberant and not or only narrowly visible beyond the margin of the jaw when viewed from below. The postorbital groove is shallow and irregular and extends posteriorly from the eye before turning sharply ventrally to connect with the gular fold, and another groove proceeds sharply ventrally just posterior to the lower jaw and extends irregularly across the throat anterior to the gular fold. There is no sublingual fold. The maxillary teeth number 36 in the male and 64–68 (mean = 66.0±2.0) in the females, and extend posteriorly to the level of the posterior end of the orbit. The vomerine teeth number 26 in the male and 19–26 (mean = 22.3±3.5) in the females, and are in long, single, arched series that extend laterally to the level of the outer edge of the choanae. The premaxillary teeth number 3 in the male and 4–6 (mean = 5.0±1.0) in the females. The premaxillary teeth are enlarged and pierce the lip in the male and are not enlarged and are located posterior to the lip and in line with the maxillary series in females. There are 13 costal grooves. The tail is nearly rectangular in cross section anteriorly, rounded and tapering distally. The tail is strongly constricted basally and relatively short (tail length/SVL 0.957 in the male and 0.817–0.865 in 2 adult females). The limbs are relatively slender and long with the adpressed limbs nearly touching in the male and a limb interval of 0.5 costal folds in the females. The digits are moderately webbed, with nearly two segments on both sides of Toe III on the forelimbs and the hind limbs free of webbing. The protruding toe tips are bluntly rounded and all toe tips have well-developed subdigital pads. The relative length of the toes on the forelimbs is I<IV<II<III, whereas that on the hind limbs is I<V<II<IV<III. A fairly distinct to poorly evident postiliac gland cluster is present. The male has cloacal papillae and the females have cloacal folds.

FIGURE 1. An adult male (USNM 563900) *Bolitoglossa oresbia* (photograph by the author).

Color in life of a female (USNM 563900; color codes and numbers from Smithe 1975–1981): all dorsal surfaces were Fuscous (21), with the lateral surface of the tail having Cinnamon (39) spots. The anterior and posterior surfaces of the limbs were Cinnamon-Rufous (40). The ventral and subcaudal surfaces were Salmon Color (106), with that color extending onto the ventrolateral surface of the body and tail. An adult male (USNM 563901) is similar, except that the dorsal surface of the tail had Pale Pinkish Buff (121D) spots. The color in life of the holotype (from McCranie et al. 2005): dorsal surfaces of the head and body grayish-brown, with small, inconspicuous, irregularly shaped Buff-Yellow (53) spots; dorsal surface of the tail grayish-brown with irregularly shaped Buff-Yellow spots anteriorly; limbs grayish-brown with irregularly shaped Buff-Yellow spots on the anterior and posterior surfaces of the upper segments; ventral surface and anterior 3/4 of subcaudal surface uniformly Buff-Yellow, with the Buff-Yellow extending onto the ventrolateral surface of the tail. The color in life of the female paratype (from McCranie et al. 2005): dorsal surface of the head Brownish-Olive (29) with Buff-Yellow (53) markings forming incomplete dorsolateral stripes that extend from the snout and across the upper eyelid onto the shoulder; dorsal surface of the body Brownish-Olive with Buff-Yellow blotches dorsolaterally; ventral and subcaudal surfaces Buff-Yellow, color extending onto the ventrolateral surfaces of the body and tail. In alcohol the dorsal surfaces of the head, body, and tail are dark brown to grayish-brown, with distinct dorsolateral yellowish-brown to pale brown blotches or spots. The dorsal surface of the tail can have yellowish-brown to pale brown spots or blotches; those markings are sometimes absent. The ventrolateral and subcaudal surfaces of the tail are yellowish-brown. The ventral surface of the head and body are yellowish-brown with brown to grayish-brown flecking.

• **DIAGNOSIS**. *Bolitoglossa oresbia* is a member of the *B. dunni* species group of the subgenus *Magnadigita* Taylor 1944, as viewed by Parra-Olea et al.

(2004). Thirteen described species were included in the group by McCranie et al. (2005). *Bolitoglossa oresbia* differs from them in having the anterior 3/4 of the subcaudal surface uniformly buff-yellow or pinkish-brown in life, the color extending onto the ventrolateral surface of the tail.

• **DESCRIPTIONS**. Detailed descriptions of external morphology are in McCranie et al. (2005) and McCranie and Castañeda (2007).

• **ILLUSTRATIONS**. A color photograph is in McCranie and Castañeda (2007) and a black-and-white photograph is in McCranie et al. (2005).

• **DISTRIBUTION**. *Bolitoglossa oresbia* is known only from the Cerro El Zarciadero, an isolated mountain range in the northwestern portion of Departamento de Comayagua, Honduras. All specimens were taken at 1880 m elevation in the Lower Montane Wet Forest formation of Holdridge (1967). The type series was taken in July 2003 from inside water-containing bromeliads growing on trees. Three others were taken in similar bromeliads (out of 7 bromeliads opened) and several others were active on vegetation at night in June 2003. Because of the endangered status of this species, only a few specimens were preserved (see **Remarks**).

• **FOSSIL RECORD**. None.

Map. Distribution of *Bolitoglossa oresbia*. The open circle denotes the type and only known locality.

• **PERTINENT LITERATURE**. The natural history of this species was discussed by McCranie et al. (2005) and McCranie and Castañeda (2007). Locality information is in McCranie (2006), McCranie et al. (2005), and Raffaëlli (2007).

• **ETYMOLOGY**. The name *oresbia* is formed from the transliterated Greek ορεσβιος and means "living in or on mountains", in reference to the montane habitat of this species.

• **COMMENT**. McCranie and Castañeda (2007) suggested the common name Salamandra del Cerro Zarciadero for this species.

• **REMARKS.** McCranie et al. (2005) and McCranie and Castañeda (2007) noted that the known range of *Bolitoglossa oresbia* is limited to less than 1 ha of forest, enveloped by crop fields. In the Environmental Vulnerability Gauge used by McCranie and Wilson (2002), and Wilson and McCranie (2004), this species scores a 17, one less than the highest possible vulnerability score.

LITERATURE CITED

Holdridge, L.R. 1967. Life Zone Ecology. Revised Edition. Trop. Sci. Center, San José, Costa Rica.

McCranie, J.R. 2006. Specimen Locality Data and Museum Numbers to Accompany "Guía de Campo de los Anfibios de Honduras" by James R. McCranie and Franklin E. Castañeda /Ubicación y Números de Museo de los Especímenes, Información Complementaria a la "Guía de Campo de los Anfibios de Honduras" por James R. McCranie y Franklin E. Castañeda. Smithson. Herpetol. Info. Serv. (137):1–39.

– and F.E. Castañeda. 2007. Guía de Campo de los Anfibios de Honduras. Bibliomania!, Salt Lake City, Utah.

–, M.R. Espinal, and L.D. Wilson. 2005. New species of montane salamander of the *Bolitoglossa dunni* group from northern Comayagua, Honduras (Urodela: Plethodontidae). J. Herpetol. 39:108–112.

– and L.D. Wilson. 2002. The Amphibians of Honduras. SSAR Contrib. Herpetol., Vol. 19. Ithaca, New York.

Parra-Olea, G., M. García-París, and D.B. Wake. 2004. Molecular diversification of salamanders of the tropical American genus *Bolitoglossa* (Caudata: Plethodontidae) and its evolutionary and biogeographical implications. Biol. J. Linn. Soc. 81:325–346.

Raffaëlli, J. 2007. Les Urodèles du monde. Penclen Édition. France.

Smithe, F.B. 1975–1981. Naturalist's Color Guide. Part I. Color Guide. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., New York.

Taylor, E.H. 1944. The genera of plethodont salamanders in Mexico, Pt. I. Univ. Kansas Sci. Bull. 30:189–232.

Wilson, L.D. and J.R. McCranie. 2004. The conservation status of the herpetofauna of Honduras. Amphib. Rept. Conserv. 3(1):6–33.

James R. McCranie, 10770 SW 164th Street, Miami, FL 33157–2933, USA (jmccrani@bellsouth.net).

Primary editor for this account, Brian T. Miller.

Published 30 April 2008 and Copyright © 2008 by the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles.